Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: BILATERAL RELATIONS: FONMIN'S REMARKS

- 1. ON JULY 6, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM MAURITIUS OAU CONFERENCES, FONMIN KIFLE WODAJO HOSTED A FAREWELL DINNER FOR DEPARTING AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ARTHUR W. HUMMEL. ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT WAS WARM AND CORDIAL.
- 2. GUEST LIST OF SOME 30 RANKING DIPLOMATS AND MOFA BUREAU DIRECTORS WAS NOTEWORTHY FOR ITS SCOPE. BY COMPARISON, SIMILAR AFFAIRS RECENTLY HELD FOR THREE DEPARTING EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS HAD TYPICALLY BEEN LIMITED TO A DOZEN GUESTS. DIPLOMATS PRESENT AT HUMMEL DINNER INCLUDED, BESIDES EMBOFFS, RANKING REPRESENTATIVES OF SOVIET UNION, WEST GERMANY, FRANCE, UK, DEAN OF CORPS (CAMEROONIAN AMB), ETC.
- 3. AT CLOSE OF DINNER FONMIN ROSE TO DELIVER FAREWELL TO AMBASSADOR HUMMEL WHICH WAS WARM, BOTH PERSONALLY AND OFFICIALLY, AND WENT WELL BEYOND ENCOMIUMS CUSTOMARY ON SUCH OCCASIONS. FONMIN INTER ALIA PRAISED AMBASSADOR FOR HIS "CORRECT INTERPRETATION OF ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION AND EPMG'S OBJECTIVES TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WASHINGTON AND EXPRESSED EPMG'S SATISFACTION THERE-

WITH. HE CHARACTERIZED ETHIOPIAN-AMERICAN BILATERAL RELATIONS AS "FRIENDLY AND GOOD."

4. COMMENT: KIFLE'S REMARKS ABOUT STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AND AMBASSADOR'S INTERPRETATION OF DEVELOPMENTS IN ETHIOPIA, WITH IMPLICATION THAT AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN READING THEM CORRECTLY AND THAT US HAS BEEN RESPONDING APPROPRIATELY, WILL NO DOUBT NEVER APPEAR IN PRINT BUT WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT MESSAGE WAS NOT LOST ON ASSEMBLED GUESTS, SOME OF WHOM IN PAST PRIVATELY QUESTIONED OUR POSITION HERE. END COMMENT. TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS, AMBASSADORS

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